

## **Partnerships with Other Nursing Programs**

### **Blinn College ADN**

*University of Texas Austin*

*University of Texas Houston*

*University of Texas Tyler*

*Stephen F. Austin State University*

*Texas A & M University - Corpus Christi*

There are articulation agreements in place with each school.

**Approximate cost of implementing and maintaining partnership:** n/a

**Grant monies used:** n/a

**Expected benefits from partnership:**

- graduates from Blinn College ADN program may experience an easier transfer into the identified BSN programs, as Blinn serves as a feeder school

**Challenges from partnership:**

- none identified

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## East Texas Consortium of Schools

Angelina College  
East Texas Baptist University  
Kilgore College  
Lamar State College Orange  
Navarro College  
Northeast Texas Community College

Panola College  
Paris Junior College  
Stephen F. Austin University  
Texarkana College  
Trinity Valley Community College  
Tyler Junior College  
University of Texas at Tyler

## East Texas Consortium

The ANET project was funded by the THECB under their innovation grant program. The purpose of the grant was to identify students at risk of failing out of the nursing programs at SFASU, Angelina College and Panola College. Those students who were identified as at-risk were provided a modified curriculum which spaced out courses in the first semester, thereby decreasing the study load for those at-risk students. The courses were provided in a web-based format which provided students with the opportunity to review content as often as necessary in order to master the material. Tools to measure all variables were developed and administered to all incoming students. The project studied overall retention rates and retention at two critical points with the highest potential for failure in the nursing curriculum - the first semester and the semester including medical-surgical nursing. Two on-line entry courses, Pharmacology and Health Assessment, and one recovery course, Medical-Surgical Nursing, were developed and used in summer 2004 and 2005. The partner institutions shared faculty, curriculum and facilities in all three courses. A statistician compiled and analyzed the student data. Seven research questions evaluated the variables linked to success in all students and intervention students, identified differences in ADN and BSN students, and differences in retention rates for at-risk vs. control group students, and by ADN and BSN groups. Four hospitals provided in-kind funding for the project.

**Approximate cost of implementing and maintaining partnership:** partnerships maintained by relationships with agencies; cost unknown

**Grant monies used:** yes, THECB

**Expected benefits from partnership:**

As a result of this partnership, Tenet Medical Center in Nacogdoches donated space, remodeling costs, and a partial FTE for a shared clinical laboratory facility for Angelina College, Panola College and SFASU School of Nursing. To date, the partnership is continuing to work together as the East Texas Nursing Education Consortium (ETNEC) and is actively seeking grant opportunities for other innovative projects.

**Challenges from partnership:**

- overcoming differences in philosophies between ADN and BSN programs and differences in curricula. These barriers were overcome by developing, over time, trusting relationships between the partners

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